

In the Claims:

1-24 (Cancelled).

25 (Currently amended).     An outer air seal assembly~~engine-turbine section~~  
constructed and arranged proximate to, but spaced radially away from, at least one turbine engine  
blade rotatably attached to a longitudinally extending shaft having a central axis, the blade being  
constructed and arranged to generate a flow of working fluid having a radially-outward  
component during operation, comprising:

~~— a longitudinally extending shaft having a central axis;~~

~~at least one blade rotatably attached to said shaft, said blade including a radially-outward~~  
~~blade tip, said blade being constructed and arranged to generate a flow of working fluid having a~~  
~~radially-outward component during operation;~~

~~an outer air seal assembly proximate to, but spaced radially away from, said blade tip,~~  
~~said outer air seal assembly including at least first and second adjacent outer air seal segments~~  
constructed and arranged proximate to, but spaced radially away from, a radially-outward tip of  
said at least one blade, said seal segments being constructed and arranged to form an interface  
gap therebetween characterized by a radially-aligned portion and a radially-skewed portion,  
wherein said radially-skewed portion is formed by complementary, substantially-planar radially-  
inward portions of said adjacent seal segments, wherein said radially-skewed portion of said  
interface gap is constructed and arranged to redirect said radially-outward component of said  
working fluid;

wherein said first and second outer air seal segments are characterized by a radially-  
outward boundary surface and an opposite radially-inward boundary surface, each of said  
radially-inward boundary surfaces being radially spaced apart from said central axis by a

predetermined first distance, said radially-outward component of said working fluid being directed toward said radially-inward boundary surfaces;

wherein said first and second outer air seal segment are each characterized by a first interface edge and an opposite second interface edge, said second outer air seal segment first edge being spaced apart from said first outer air seal segment second edge by said interface gap;

wherein said first outer air seal segment second edge has a radially-aligned portion and a radially-skewed portion extending rotationally-downstream therefrom and wherein second outer air seal segment first edge has a radially-aligned portion and a radially-skewed portion extending rotationally-downstream therefrom;

whereby said outer air seal segment interface gap is constructed and arranged to change direction of said radially-outward component of said working fluid.

26 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine section~~ of Claim 25, wherein said radially-skewed portion of said first outer air seal segment second edge extends beyond the plane of the second edge radially-aligned portion and protrudes substantially across said radially-aligned portion of said interface gap to cooperatively form a radially-skewed portion of said interface gap with said radially-skewed portion of said second outer air seal segment first edge.

27 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine section~~ of Claim 25, wherein said interface gap radially-skewed portion is rotationally-downstream from said radially-aligned portion of second outer air seal segment first edge and includes a radially-inward region

and a radially-outward region, said radially-outward region being rotationally-upstream of said radially-inward region.

28 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine turbine section~~ of Claim 25, wherein said first and second outer air seal segments are characterized by front boundary surface and a rear boundary surface spaced longitudinally therefrom and wherein said interface gap has a substantially-uniform contour along the longitudinal span between said front boundary surface and said rear boundary surface.

29 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine turbine section~~ of Claim 25, wherein said interface gap separates said first and second outer air seal segments circumferentially.

30 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine turbine section~~ of Claim 29, further including a blocking panel disposed within said interface gap.

31 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine turbine section~~ of Claim 30, wherein said blocking panel is disposed within said radially-aligned region.

32 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine turbine section~~ of Claim 29, further including a partition member extending into said interface gap, wherein a serpentine-shaped pathway is formed within said interference gap.

33 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine section~~ of Claim 32, wherein said partition member is disposed on said first outer air seal segment.

34 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine section~~ of Claim 32, wherein said partition member is disposed on said second outer air seal segment.

35 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine section~~ of Claim 32, wherein said partition member is oriented in a substantially-radially-aligned manner with respect to said central axis.

36 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine section~~ of Claim 32, wherein said partition member is oriented in a substantially-circumferentially-aligned manner with respect to said central axis.

37 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine section~~ of Claim 29, wherein said first outer air seal segment further includes a radially-inward surface and a conduit adapted to fluidly connect a source of cooling fluid to said interface gap, whereby said interface gap is adapted to deliver cooling fluid to a location proximate said radially-inward surface.

38 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine section~~ of Claim 37, wherein said conduit is fluidly connected to said radially-skewed portion.

39 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine-section~~ of Claim 29, wherein said second outer air seal segment further includes a radially-inward surface and a conduit adapted to fluidly connect a source of cooling fluid to said interface gap, whereby said interface gap is adapted to deliver cooling fluid to a location proximate said radially-inward surface.

40 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine-section~~ of Claim 39, wherein said conduit is fluidly connected to said radially-skewed portion.

41 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine-section~~ of Claim 25, wherein said substantially-planar radially-inward portions of said adjacent seal segments are offset from a radial orientation by a predetermined angle.

42 (Currently amended). The outer air seal assembly ~~engine-turbine-section~~ of Claim 41, wherein said predetermined angle is in the range of about fifteen to fifty-five degrees.

43 – 46. (Cancelled)